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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

FRANZ NIEDEREDER ET AL-1 (PCT)

PCT No.:

PCT/AT00/00221

FILED: AUGUST 16, 2000

TITLE:

WELDING UNIT EQUIPPED WITH A COMMUNICATIONS INTERFACE AND METHOD FOR OPERATING THE WELDING

UNIT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

477 587 Preliminary to Examination, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title, please insert as follows:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of Austrian Application No. A 1408/99 filed August 16, 1999. Applicants also claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 of PCT/AT00/00221 filed August 16, 2000. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

Page 1, after line 7, please insert the following paragraphs: